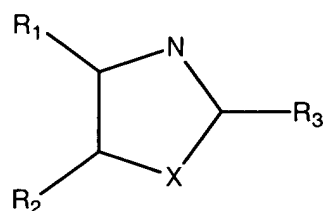


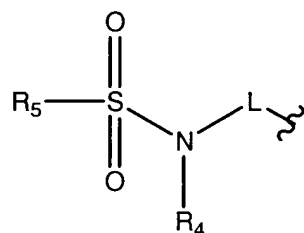
CLAIMS

1. A compound of Formula I



Formula I

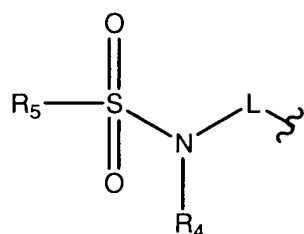
wherein one of R₁ and R₂ is a group of the formula



5

wherein R₄ is selected from H and hydrocarbyl, R₅ is a hydrocarbyl group and L is an optional linker group,

or R₁ and R₂ together form a ring substituted with the group



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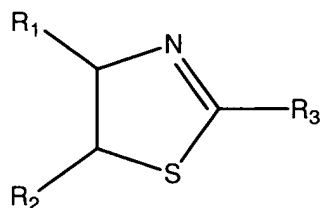
wherein R₃ is H or a substituent

and wherein X is selected from S, O, NR₆ and C(R₇)(R₈), wherein R₆ is selected from H and hydrocarbyl groups, wherein each of R₇ and R₈ are independently selected from H and hydrocarbyl groups;

or a salt thereof.

15

2. A compound according to claim 1 of Formula II

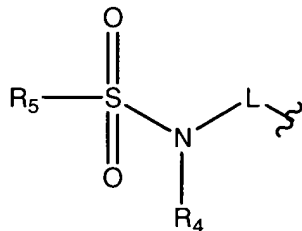


Formula II

or a salt thereof.

3. A compound according to claim 1 wherein L is not present.

4. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₁ and R₂ together form a ring substituted with the group

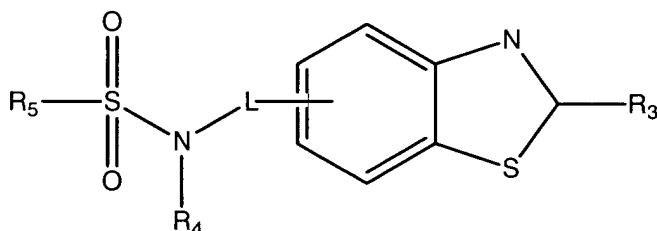


5. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₁ and R₂ together form a carbocyclic ring.

6. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₁ and R₂ together form a six membered ring.

7. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₁ and R₂ together form an aryl ring.

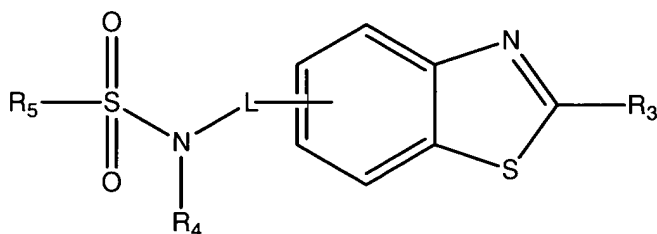
8. A compound according to claim 1 of Formula III



Formula III

or a salt thereof.

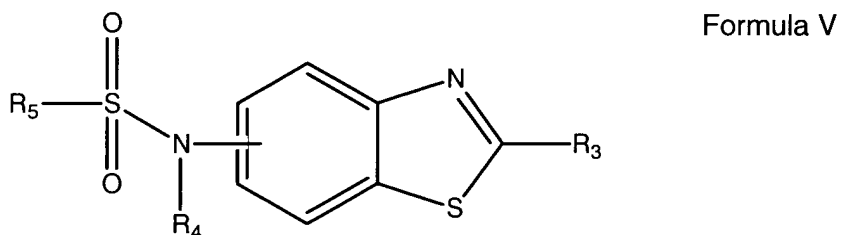
9. A compound according to claim 1 of Formula IV



Formula IV

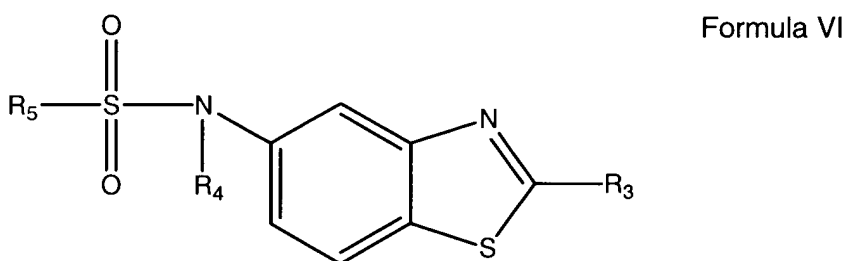
or a salt thereof.

10. A compound according to claim 1 of Formula V



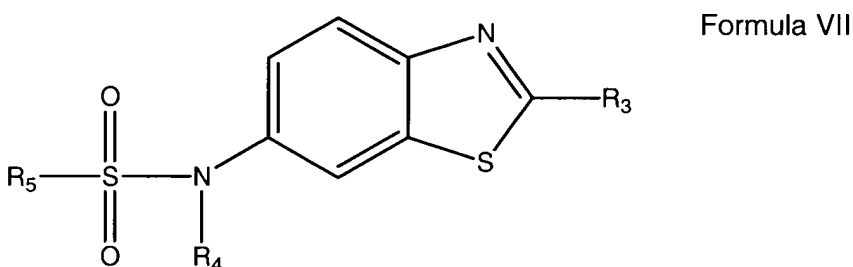
or a salt thereof.

- 5 11. A compound according to claim 1 of Formula VI



or a salt thereof.

12. A compound according to claim 1 of Formula VII



or a salt thereof.

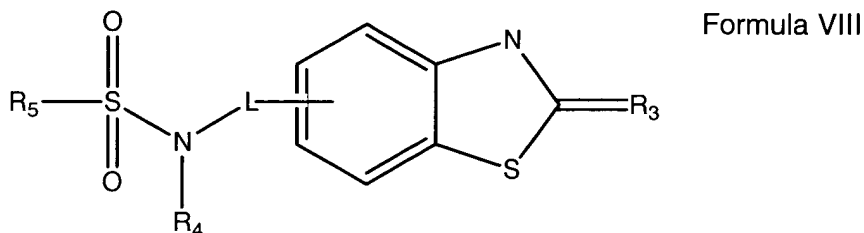
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13. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₃ is selected from H, hydrocarbyl, -S-hydrocarbyl, -S-H, halogen and N(R₉)(R₁₀), wherein each of R₉ and R₁₀ are independently selected from H and hydrocarbyl groups.

- 15 14. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₃ is selected from H and C₁-C₁₀ alkyl groups, **such as C₁-C₆ alkyl group, and C₁-C₃ alkyl group.**

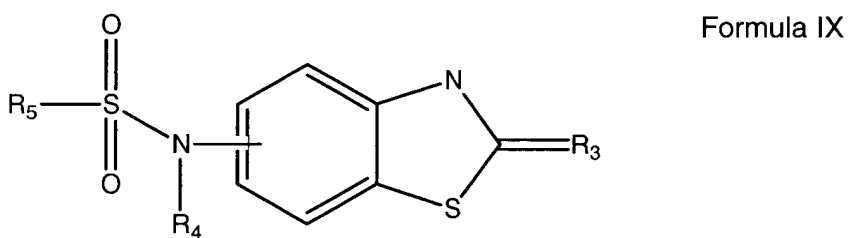
15. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₃ is -CH₃.

16. A compound according to claim 1 of Formula VIII



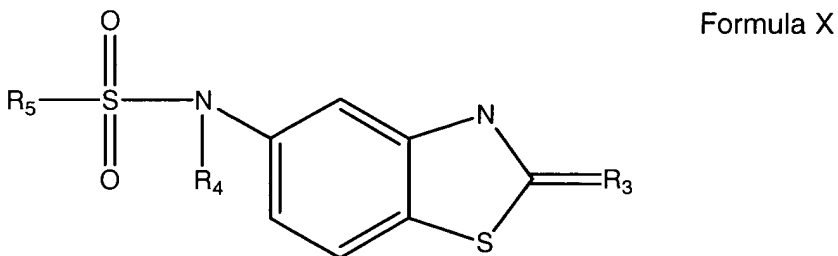
or a salt thereof.

- 5 17. A compound according to according to claim 1 of Formula IX



or a salt thereof.

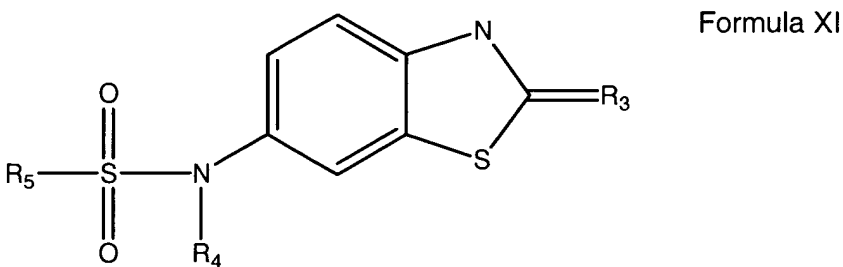
18. A compound according to according to claim 1 of Formula X



or a salt thereof.

10

19. A compound according to claim 1 of Formula XI



or a salt thereof.

20. A compound according to claim 16 wherein R₃ is selected from O, hydrocarbyl, and

N(R₉) wherein R₉ is selected from H and hydrocarbyl groups.

21. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₃ is selected from O, C₁-C₁₀ alkenyl groups, NH, and N-C₁-C₁₀ alkyl groups.

5

22. A compound according to claim 21 wherein R₃ is a C₁-C₆ alkenyl group.

23. A compound according to claim 21 wherein R₃ is a C₁-C₃ alkenyl group.

10

24. A compound according to claim 21 wherein R₃ is a N-C₁-C₆ alkyl group.

25. A compound according to claim 21 wherein R₃ is a N-C₁-C₃ alkyl group.

15

26. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₄ is selected from H and C₁-C₁₀ alkyl groups.

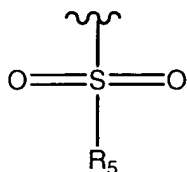
27. A compound according to claim 26 wherein R₃ is a C₁-C₆ alkyl group.

28. A compound according to claim 26 wherein R₃ is a C₁-C₃ alkyl group.

20

29. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₄ is H.

30. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₄ is a group of the formula.



25

31. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₅ is a substituted ring.

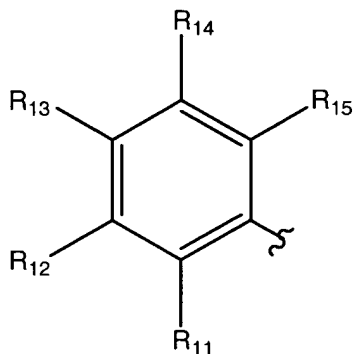
32. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₅ is a carbocyclic ring.

30

33. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₅ is a six membered ring.

34. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₅ is an aryl ring.

35. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₅ is a group having the formula



wherein each of R₁₁, R₁₂, R₁₃, R₁₄ and R₁₅ are independently selected from H, halogen, and hydrocarbyl groups.

36. A compound according to claim 35 wherein each of R₁₁, R₁₂, R₁₃, R₁₄ and R₁₅ are independently selected from H, halogen, alkyl, phenyl, O-alkyl, O-phenyl, nitrile, haloalkyl, carboxyalkyl, -CO₂H, CO₂alkyl, and NH-acetyl groups.

37. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 optionally admixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, excipient or adjuvant.

38. A method of preventing or treating a condition or disease associated with 11 β -HSD, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 to an individual in need thereof.

39. The method according to claim 38 wherein the condition or disease is selected from metabolic disorders; cardiovascular disorders; glaucoma; inflammatory disorders; immune disorders; bone disorders; cancer; intra-uterine growth retardation; apparent mineralocorticoid excess syndrome (AME); polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS); hirsutism; acne; oligo- or amenorrhea; adrenal cortical adenoma and carcinoma; Cushing's syndrome; pituitary tumours; invasive carcinomas; breast cancer; and endometrial cancer.

40. The method according to claim 39 wherein the condition or disease is diabetes or obesity.

41. The method according to claim 39 wherein the condition or disease is hypertension.

42. The method according to claim 39 wherein the condition or disease is arthritis or asthma.
- 5 43. The method according to claim 39 wherein the condition or disease is osteoporosis.
44. The method according to claim 38 wherein the 11 β -HSD is 11 β -HSD Type 1.
45. The method according to claim 38 wherein the 11 β -HSD is 11 β -HSD Type 2.
- 10 46. A method of preventing or treating a condition or disease associated with adverse 11 β -HSD levels, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 to an individual in need thereof.
- 15 47. A method of modulating 11 β -HSD activity, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
48. A method of inhibiting 11 β -HSD activity, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
- 20 49. A method comprising (a) performing a 11 β -HSD assay with at least one candidate compound according to claim 1; (b) determining whether at least one of said candidate compounds is capable of modulating 11 β -HSD activity; and (c) selecting at least one of said candidate compounds that is capable of modulating 11 β -HSD activity.
- 25 50. A compound identified by the method according to claim 49.
51. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to claim 50 optionally admixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, excipient or adjuvant.
- 30 52. A method of preventing or treating a condition or disease associated with 11 β -HSD, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 50 to an individual in need thereof.
- 35 53. The method according to claim 52 wherein the condition or disease is selected from

metabolic disorders; cardiovascular disorders; glaucoma; inflammatory disorders; immune disorders; bone disorders; cancer; intra-uterine growth retardation; apparent mineralocorticoid excess syndrome (AME); polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS); hirsutism; acne; oligo- or amenorrhea; adrenal cortical adenoma and carcinoma; Cushing's syndrome; pituitary tumours; invasive carcinomas; breast cancer; and endometrial cancer.

54. A method of preventing or treating a condition or disease associated with adverse levels of 11 β -HSD, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 50 to an individual in need thereof.

55. The method according to claim 49 wherein the 11 β -HSD is selected from 11 β -HSD Type 1 and 11 β -HSD Type 2.

56. A method comprising (a) performing a 11 β -HSD assay with at least one candidate compound according to claim 1; (b) determining whether at least one of said candidate compounds is capable of inhibiting 11 β -HSD activity; and (c) selecting at least one of said candidate compounds that is capable of inhibiting 11 β -HSD activity.

57. A compound identified by the method according to claim 56.

58. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to claim 57 optionally admixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, excipient or adjuvant.

59. A method of preventing or treating a condition or disease associated with 11 β -HSD, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 57 to an individual in need thereof.

60. The method according to claim 59 wherein the condition or disease is selected from metabolic disorders; cardiovascular disorders; glaucoma; inflammatory disorders; immune disorders; bone disorders; cancer; intra-uterine growth retardation; apparent mineralocorticoid excess syndrome (AME); polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS); hirsutism; acne; oligo- or amenorrhea; adrenal cortical adenoma and carcinoma; Cushing's syndrome; pituitary tumours; invasive carcinomas; breast cancer; and endometrial cancer.

61. A method of preventing or treating a condition or disease associated with adverse

levels of 11β -HSD, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 57 to an individual in need thereof.

5 62. The method according to claim 56 wherein the 11β -HSD is selected from 11β -HSD Type 1 and 11β -HSD Type 2.

63. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R_3 is a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group.

10 64. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R_3 is a C_1 - C_3 alkyl group.